

June 30, 2009

To: Stephanie Strength
Environmental Protection Specialist
USDA, Rural Utilities Service
Engineering and Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571
Washington, DC 20250-1571

Re: CAPX 2020 Project
Environmental Impact Statement
Scoping Decision Document
PUC Docket No. ET2/TL-08-1474

Dear Ms. Strength,


We are very concerned about the proposal regarding the use of 50th Street West, in Webster, MN, in Rice county, as a new proposal alternate route for the CAPX 2020 Brookings to Hampton project. We are shocked to find that this additional route option, which was never mentioned before, is in our front yard.

Your most recent proposal – A-RIC – 003 (Sirek), you say the alternate of 50th Street West is better than 57th Street W. to avoid homes on 57th Street W. There are 20 mailboxes on 57th St., and 19 mailboxes on 50th St. W. Why protect residents on 57th St. W. and not on 50th Street W?

The Sky Harbor Airpark, (only ½ mile from 50th Street W.) with the frequent presence of low flying small aircraft, hot air balloons, and helicopters, makes the site especially unsuitable and completely unsafe.

We have worked with US Fish and Wildlife Service to establish secure wildlife habitat and wetlands, and planted thousands of trees over the past 17 years. This has been a lot of hard work, to preserve the natural habitat of this land. The transmission line would have a devastating effect on our neighboring land values. We living on 50th Street West, are vehemently against this project.

Sincerely,


Sally B. Boyle
3850 – 50th Street West
Webster, Mn. 55088
Phone: 952-652-4041

I-144-001

This federal scoping process is specific to only the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kV project. As such, we have forwarded your comments to the project team dealing with the project with which you have raised concerns.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.